

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 – 10.

11. (Original) A method of selecting an image, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) specifying an image profile;
 - (b) generating a histogram from an input image;
 - (c) determining whether the histogram of the input image matches the image profile;
 - (d) if the histogram of the step (c) does not match the image profile, then repeating steps (b) and (c) for subsequent input images until the histogram of one of the subsequent input images matches the image profile.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:
 - (e) responsive to a match between one of the input images and the image profile, saving to a storage medium the image corresponding to the histogram that matches the image profile.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising the steps of:
 - (f) saving to the storage medium one or more images captured chronologically preceding the image saved in the step (e).
14. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the input image of the step (b) is provided by an image sensor in an image capture device.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the steps (a)-(d) are performed responsive to a search for a target image having the image profile, the method further comprising the steps of:

(e) indicating that the target image has been found.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the input image of the step (b) is provided from an input from a video stream.

17. (Original) A method of detecting that an image meets a predetermined image profile, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) sampling a first image;

(b) determining an image metric for the first image;

(c) comparing the image metric for the first image with the predetermined image profile; and

(d) storing the first image when the image metric for the first image matches the predetermined image profile.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the image metric comprises a luminosity component, and the predetermined image profile is matched when the luminosity component reaches a predetermined threshold.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the image metric comprises a color component, and the predetermined image profile is matched when the color component reaches a predetermined threshold.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the predetermined image profile is generated by the steps of:

(i) creating a mock up image;

- (ii) determining an image metric associated with the mock up image;
- (iii) selecting one or more threshold values; and
- (iv) forming the predetermined image profile from the selected threshold values.

21. (Original) A method of detecting an image comprising the steps of:

- (a) sampling two images at different points in time;
- (b) determining an image metric for the two images;
- (c) measuring a rate of change of the image metric;
- (d) indicating that there is a match with an image profile if the rate of change of the image metric matches a first predetermined condition.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of:

- (e) sampling a subsequent image;
- (f) determining a second image metric for the subsequent image;
- (g) measuring a rate of change of the second image metric;
- (h) indicating that there is a match with the image profile if the rate of change of the second image metric matches a second predetermined condition.

23. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the step (d) of indicating that there is a match with an image profile is accomplished by triggering an image capture sequence.

24. (Original) An image capture system comprising:

- a sensor for capturing image data;
- a histogram unit for generating an image metric from the image data captured by the sensor;
- and

a memory unit for storing the image data when the image metric meets a predetermined condition.

25. (Original) The image capture system of claim 24 further comprising:

a timing device coupled to the histogram unit for determining a rate of change of the image metric.

26. (Original) A method of creating an image profile for selecting an image, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) determining image metrics from two images;

(b) identifying one or more of the image metrics that differ between the two images by at least a predetermined amount; and

(c) determining one or more thresholds based on the one or more image metrics identified in the step (b).